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J.S.  
501.41069X00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): M. KIGUCHI, et al  
Serial No.: 10/046,249  
Filed: January 16, 2002  
For: OPTICAL APPARATUSES USING THE NEAR-FIELD LIGHT  
Group: 2859  
Examiner: G. Verbitsky

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 22, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 22, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application, as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendment of the Claims;

Remarks are included following the amendments; and

Sketch.